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(4) that the industrial revolution, together with the development of the press and of the art of political agitation, quite changed the face of English society.

Without mentioning other specific statements to which exception might be taken — and there are many — it remains to be said that this book and all others like it ignore to a large extent the idea of historic perspective and development. Even though, for example, the New England town-meeting could be proved to be the lineal descendant of the Saxon tungemote, the spirit animating the members of the two, their social environment, their ideas and aims would still be wholly different. These are the essential things; the other is the mere shell. The New Englander of to-day differs from his ancestor in Schleswig by the experiences and training of fifteen centuries. When an author tells us that the American colonist returned to the primitive forms and traditions of his own race, he imparts no *information* concerning him. The democracy of a primitive, semi-nomadic people is quite a different thing from the democracy of the nineteenth century, and in the name of historical science it is time to protest against the confounding of the two.

Finally, it would be well for Mr. Hosmer to observe that some contributions toward the progress of human freedom have been made by peoples whose native tongue is not English, and a recognition of their services would be becoming, even if it were not appreciated.

H. L. OSGOOD.

La République Américaine : États-Unis. By AUGUSTE CARLIER.

Paris, Guillaumin & Cie, 1890. — 4 vols., 588, 619, 597, 652 pp.

This is a posthumous work. The author passed from earth some months before its appearance, and it was, in its last stages, conducted through the press by his friend Claudio Jannet, who has prefixed to the work a short biographical sketch of the author. What von Holst and Bryce have done for German and English readers of American public law and political science, M. Carlier has accomplished for French readers. This is certainly a moderate statement, since his work is the most comprehensive and exhaustive one in any language upon the public law and political institutions of the United States. M. Carlier has, indeed, neither the historical genius of von Holst nor the political genius of Bryce, but he possesses fair talents in both spheres.

His first volume is devoted to the history of the formation of the colonies, the War of Independence and the Confederation. He seems to have drawn his information in regard to these subjects chiefly from Bancroft, Hildreth and Palfrey. I must say, however, that I regard his view of the relationship of the colonies to the motherland and of the

causes of their separation from the motherland as much more scientific, statesmanlike and lawyerlike than theirs. He never loses sight of the fact that the colonies were constitutionally and legally only local governments, created by and subject to the English home government; and he finds the causes of the revolution not so much in an exaggerated sense of grievances as in the natural reasons of geographical separation and ethnological divergencies. About the only things which I find to criticize in this part of his work are his undue praise of the religious liberality of the Catholic proprietors of Maryland — where the religious toleration was rather that of Protestant subjects towards a Catholic lord than that of a Catholic lord towards Protestant subjects — and his lack of appreciation of the Rhode Island idea of toleration. He considers the followers of Williams to have been irreligious rather than tolerant.

The second volume is devoted chiefly to the formation of the constitution of 1787 and the organization of the United States government under it. This volume contains also a very interesting study of our ethnological status. In his treatment of the origin of the Union the author proceeds from the states-rights point of view. He regards the United States as central government only. He simply reiterates the *ante-bellum* doctrine of our political science and public law, and certainly makes no advance in the theory of our system over that taught by Kent and Story. This is the most unsatisfactory part of the whole work.

The third and fourth volumes contain an exhaustive treatment of some subjects not dealt with so minutely by any of our own commentators upon our public law. Nearly the whole of the third volume is devoted to the commonwealth and local governments. Upon these subjects the author has manifested an extraordinary appreciation of our present conditions and relations. He regards the commonwealths no longer as local governments. He treats only of the municipalities under this title. He regards the commonwealth as a sort of middle instance between the general government and the municipalities. He does not go to the point of making the commonwealths parts of the general government, but he has evidently, unconsciously to himself, struck out upon this line. His states-rights view of the origin of the Union has preserved him against following this line of thought to its logical goal.

About one-third of the fourth volume is devoted to the judicial systems of the Union and the commonwealths, and the remainder to the Indian relations. It is in regard to this last topic that the author places us under greatest obligations. I do not recall any book in our own literature which presents so clearly, accurately and succinctly the cardinal points of this great subject. He deals with it not only legally, but also from the standpoints of history and sociology.

J. W. BURGESS.